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7055 7590 05/06/2008  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE  
RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER	
BENGZON, GREGORY C	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2144  
DATE MAILED: 05/06/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/035,231	01/04/2002	Satoshi Yashiki	P20709	3115

TITLE OF INVENTION: EMAIL RECEIVER AND METHOD OF RECEIVING EMAIL

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	08/06/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

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I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

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B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

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7055 7590 05/06/2008  
**GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.**  
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(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/035,231 01/04/2002

Satoshi Yashiki

P20709

3115

TITLE OF INVENTION: EMAIL RECEIVER AND METHOD OF RECEIVING EMAIL

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	08/06/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
BENGZON, GREG C	2144	709-206000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1  
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2  
 3

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee  
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☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.  
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191			BENGZON, GREG C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2144	

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2008

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 725 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 725 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

# Notice of Allowability

## Application No.

10/035,231

## Examiner

GREG BENZON

## Applicant(s)

YASHIKI, SATOSHI

## Art Unit

2144

### - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/05/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are Claims 13-28, renumbered Claims 1-16 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

/William C. Vaughn, Jr./  
SPE, Art Unit 2144

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Atty. William Pieprz, Reg.No. 33630 on April 25,2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A receiving Internet facsimile apparatus connectable to a mail server via a network, the receiving Internet facsimile apparatus comprising:

a communicator configured to receive, from the mail server via the network, a single e-mail to which a plurality of pages of image data are attached;

a decoder configured to decode the plurality of pages of image data attached to the received single e-mail, each of the plurality of pages of image data being defined by compressed image information provided between headers;

a memory configured to store the plurality of pages of the decoded image data;  
and

a controller configured to determine whether the memory overflows due to the reception of the single e-mail, to stop receiving the single e-mail when it is determined that the memory overflows due to the reception of the single e-mail,

the controller, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail, being further configured to re-receive the single e-mail to which the plurality of pages of the image data are attached, to determine that a predetermined page was not stored in the memory when the single e-mail was previously received from the mail server, to decode the predetermined page of the image data attached to a re-received single e-mail, and to store, in the memory, the predetermined page of the decoded image data attached to a re-received single e-mail, the predetermined page being distinct from any of the plurality of pages of the image data previously received from the mail server, wherein the controller is configured to prevent decoding and storing in memory of image data previously received from the mail server.

14. (Previously Presented) The receiving Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 13, wherein, when it is determined that the memory overflows, the controller notifies a user of a transmitting apparatus that transmitted the single e-mail to the receiving Internet facsimile apparatus, that the memory of the receiving Internet facsimile apparatus overflows.

15. (Previously Presented) The receiving Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 13 further comprising a printer configured to print data, wherein, when the printer prints the plurality of the pages of the decoded image data, the controller erases, from the memory, the plurality of the pages of the decoded image data.

16. (Previously Presented) The receiving Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the controller determines a received last page of the decoded image data, as a page of image data that was stored in the memory before the memory overflow, determines that a page received after the received last page of the decoded image data is the predetermined page of the image data to be decoded, and decodes and stores the predetermined page of the image data in the memory, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail.

17. (Previously Presented) The receiving Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the memory stores a last page number, the last page number indicating a last page of the decoded image data stored in the memory when the receiving of the single e-mail was stopped, and the controller determines that a page of the image data received after the page indicated by the last page number is the predetermined page of the image data to be decoded, and decodes and stores the

predetermined page of the image data in the memory, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail.

18. (Previously Presented) The receiving Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the memory stores a number of pages of the decoded image data stored in the memory when the receiving of the single e-mail was stopped, and the controller determines the predetermined page of the image data to be decoded, based on the number of the pages of the decoded image data stored in the memory, and decodes and stores the predetermined page of the image data in the memory, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail.

19. (Previously Presented) The receiving Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the memory stores a data amount of the decoded image data stored in the memory when the receiving of the single e-mail was stopped, and the controller determines the predetermined page of the image data to be decoded, based on the data amount of the decoded image data stored in the memory, and decodes and stores the predetermined page of the image data in the memory, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail.



20. (Currently Amended) A method for receiving, at a receiving Internet facsimile apparatus from a mail server via a network, a single e-mail to which a plurality of pages of image data are attached, the method comprising:

decoding the plurality of pages of the image data attached to the single e-mail, each of the plurality of pages of image data being defined by compressed image information provided between headers;

storing, in a memory, the plurality of pages of the decoded image data;

determining whether the memory overflows due to the reception of the single e-mail;

stopping receiving of the single e-mail when it is determined that the memory overflows due to the reception of the single e-mail;

re-receiving the single e-mail to which the plurality of pages of the image data are attached, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail;

determining that a predetermined page was not stored in the memory when the single e-mail was previously received from the mail server;

decoding the predetermined page of the image data attached to a re-received single e-mail; and

storing, in the memory, the predetermined page of the decoded image data attached to a re-received single e-mail, the predetermined page being distinct from any of the plurality of the pages previously received from the mail server, wherein decoding

the predetermined page comprises decoding the predetermined page without decoding and storing image data previously received from the mail server.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20 further comprising notifying a user of a transmitting apparatus that transmitted the single e-mail to the receiving Internet facsimile apparatus, that the memory of the receiving Internet facsimile apparatus overflows, when it is determined that the memory overflows.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20 further comprising printing the plurality of the pages of the decoded image data, and erasing, from the memory, the plurality of the pages of the decoded image data when the plurality of the pages of the decoded image data are printed.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20 further comprising:

determining a received last page of the decoded image data, as a page of the image data that was stored in the memory before the memory overflow, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail;

determining that a page received after the received last page of the decoded image data is the predetermined page of the image data; and

decoding and storing the predetermined page of the image data in the memory.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20 further comprising:

storing, in the memory, a last page number, the last page number indicating a last page of the decoded image data stored in the memory when the receiving of the single e-mail was stopped;

determining that a page of the image data received after the page indicated by the last page number is the predetermined page of the image data to be decoded, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail; and

decoding and storing the predetermined page of the image data in the memory.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20 further comprising:

storing, in the memory, a number of pages of the decoded image data stored in the memory when the receiving of the single e-mail was stopped;

determining the predetermined page of the image data to be decoded, based on the number of the pages of the decoded image data stored in the memory, when the

Art Unit: 2144

single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail; and

decoding and storing the predetermined page of the image data in the memory.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20 further comprising:

storing, in the memory, a data amount of the decoded image data stored in the memory when the receiving of the single e-mail was stopped;

determining the predetermined page of the image data to be decoded, based on the data amount of the decoded image data stored in the memory, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail; and

decoding and storing the predetermined page of the image data in the memory.

27. (Currently Amended) A receiving Internet facsimile apparatus connectable to a mail server via a network, the receiving Internet facsimile apparatus comprising:

a communicator configured to receive, from the mail server via the network, an e-mail to which a plurality of pages of image data are attached;

a decoder configured to decode the plurality of pages of image data attached to received e-mail, each of the plurality of pages of image data being defined by compressed image information provided between headers;

a memory configured to store the plurality of pages of the decoded image data;

a controller configured to determine whether the memory overflows during the reception of an e-mail, and to stop receiving the e-mail when it is determined that the memory overflows;

the controller being further configured to, when an e-mail is received from the mail server, determine whether the e-mail was previously received and subject to a stop in receiving, or whether the e-mail was not previously received and when it is determined that the e-mail was previously received and which resulted in a memory overflow, to determine which pages of image data attached to the e-mail were previously received prior to the memory overflow and which pages of image data attached to the e-mail were not previously received;

the controller being further configured to decode only pages of the image data attached to the received e-mail that were not previously received and to store the decoded pages in memory and to prevent decoding and storing in memory of image data previously received from the mail server.

28. (Previously Presented) The receiving Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 27 wherein, upon the controller determining that a received page of image data was previously received, to delete the previously received page from a reception buffer without decoding the image data of the received page.

29-31 (cancelled)

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 13-28 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The provision for -- a receiving Internet facsimile apparatus connectable to a mail server via a network, the receiving Internet facsimile apparatus comprising:

*a communicator configured to receive, from the mail server via the network, a single e-mail to which a plurality of pages of image data are attached;*

*a decoder configured to decode the plurality of pages of image data attached to the received single e-mail, each of the plurality of pages of image data being defined by compressed image information provided between headers;*

*a memory configured to store the plurality of pages of the decoded image data;*  
*and*

*a controller configured to determine whether the memory overflows due to the reception of the single e-mail, to stop receiving the single e-mail when it is determined that the memory overflows due to the reception of the single e-mail,*

*the controller, when the single e-mail is re-received from the mail server after the stop in receiving of the single e-mail, being further configured to re-receive the single e-mail to which the plurality of pages of the image data are attached, to determine that a*

*predetermined page was not stored in the memory when the single e-mail was previously received from the mail server, to decode the predetermined page of the image data attached to a re-received single e-mail, and to store, in the memory, the predetermined page of the decoded image data attached to a re-received single e-mail, the predetermined page being distinct from any of the plurality of pages of the image data previously received from the mail server, wherein the controller is configured to prevent decoding and storing in memory of image data previously received from the mail server*

wherein all the features previously described are combined in one singular embodiment, is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

The Examiner finds particular novelty in the email receiver capabilities as described in the Applicant Specification (page 14, Paragraph 43-45) wherein the email receiver is able to recognize retransmitted images sent as email attachment data after detecting memory overflow (Page 10 Paragraph 29 ) in the email receiver during the previous transmission. Furthermore the decoder in said email receiver is able to decode pages of attachment image data as defined in Paragraph 13 from a single e-mail and wherein the controller in said email receiver is configured to prevent decoding and storing in memory of image data previously received from the mail server.(figure 7-9, Paragraph 31-33)

Hayashi disclosed an email transmission apparatus in which the apparatus stores both the number of document sheets for which image data has been transmitted by a time when transmission is stopped due to a transmission trouble and the number of documents for which image data has already been stored. In retransmitting all the documents, the apparatus provides discrimination data for discriminating between documents for which image data is not transmitted and documents for which image data is already transmitted, based on the stored number of transmitted sheets.

However Hayashi does not disclose a decoder in said email receiver which is able to decode pages of attachment image data wherein said pages of image data are defined by headers as defined in the Applicant Specifications Paragraph 13. Hayashi does not disclose wherein the decoder in said email receiver is able to decode pages of attachment image data from a single e-mail and wherein the controller in said email receiver is configured to prevent decoding and storing in memory of image data previously received from the mail server.

Matsubara disclosed an Internet-connected facsimile apparatus and facsimile communication method with a controller which controls the transmitting unit such that the image data of the document is transmitted to the external image receiving apparatus through one of the first and second networks, and such that the image data of the document is retransmitted to the external image receiving apparatus through the remaining one of the first and second networks.



Matsubara does not disclose a decoder in said email receiver which is able to decode pages of attachment image data wherein said pages of image data are defined by headers as defined in the Applicant Specifications Paragraph 13. Matsubara does not disclose wherein the decoder in said email receiver is able to decode pages of attachment image data from a single e-mail and wherein the controller in said email receiver is configured to prevent decoding and storing in memory of image data previously received from the mail server.

Saito disclosed an E-mail type facsimile apparatus that can leave E-mail in a mail server used as a secondary storage device and distinguish E-mail that has been left and new incoming E-mail in subsequent accesses. Saito also disclosed a decoder in said email receiver which is able to decode pages of attachment image data wherein said pages of image data are defined by headers as defined in the Applicant Specifications Paragraph 13.

SAITO discloses a counter for pieces of email. However, the pieces of email are NOT equivalent to a plurality of pages of image data attached to a single e-mail. Rather, each of the pieces of emails is a different email from the others.

Thus Saito does not disclose wherein the decoder in said email receiver is able to decode pages of attachment image data from a single e-mail and wherein the controller in said email receiver is configured to prevent decoding and storing in memory

of image data from a single e-mail previously received from the mail server.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GREG BENGZON whose telephone number is (571)272-3944. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571)272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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